



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

COLORADO BULLETIN NO.: CO-180-06-03

JULY 26, 2006

SUBJECT: CPA –Information for Developing Wildlife Habitat Management Plans

TO: All Offices

PURPOSE: Provide Information Needed for Developing a Wildlife Habitat Management Plan

EXPIRATION DATE: September 30, 2006

This bulletin provides information needed to develop Wildlife Habitat Management Plans for:

[643 – Restoration and Management of Rare or Declining Habitat,](#)
[644 – Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management,](#)
[645 – Upland Wildlife Management Habitat,](#)
[646 – Shallow Water Development and Management,](#)
[647 – Early Successional Habitat Development and Management.](#)

Additional information that provides details of how, when and what will be done by the client should also be included in this plan, providing the producer complete guidance on their responsibilities in implementing this plan.

Wildlife Habitat Planning

1. Identify habitats and species that will be affected by the plan.
2. Find out the client's wildlife objectives. Determine if the client's objectives are compatible with our conservation planning quality criteria and all special environmental concerns. If not, you will need to work with the client to revise objectives. The client may decide/choose to not work with us if agreement on objectives cannot be achieved. Once an objective is decided, clearly state that objective in the wildlife part of the conservation plan.
3. Evaluate the quality of habitats using either a habitat model (Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide WHEG) or a site appropriate species model. These are found in Section I of electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) under Technical Notes/Biology. For wetlands, the Colorado-Wetland Evaluation Procedures (CO-WET) or Avian Richness Evaluation Method (AREM) (salinity areas) must also be completed.
4. Use results of models to determine which habitat components are low.
5. Use practices to help improve the habitat based on the low factors in the model. Practice narratives, job sheets, and specifications should explain how the desired results will be achieved. For example, if the model shows you need more forbs, you might plan to use Range Seeding to improve this factor. The job sheet must explain how to get from current

conditions to the desired conditions including species to be seeded, seeding amounts, seedbed prep, weed control, planting method, and timing of the planting.

6. The future/planned model score must be at 0.5 or higher to report Upland/Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management.

/s/

ALLEN GREEN
State Conservationist

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